

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME

Call to Order: Chair John Brenden, on February 10, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. John Brenden, Chair (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Jedediah Hinkle (R)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R) (entered after roll call)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Julie Emge, Committee Secretary
Hope Stockwell, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 221, 2/5/2015; HB 212, 2/5/2015; SB 245, 2/5/2015

Executive Action: HB 221: Be Concurred In As Amended
SB 247: Do Pass

HEARING ON HB 221

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:18 Rep. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D), HD 51, opened the hearing on HB 221, Revise hunting/fishing license laws for critically wounded first responders.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:47 Ladd Paulson, Disabled Officers, Billings

00:09:41 Heidi Paulson, Hunting for Heros (H4H)

EXHIBIT(fis30a01)

00:13:30 Jerry Williams, executive director, Montana Police Protective Association (MPPA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:20 Sen. Vincent

00:16:23 Rep. MacDonald

00:17:02 Sen. Vincent

00:19:03 Ms. Paulson, H4H

00:19:47 Sen. Hinkle

00:21:45 Rep. MacDonald

00:22:25 Chair Brenden

00:22:32 Frank Worsech, license bureau chief, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

00:22:35 Sen. Hinkle

00:24:15 Mr. Worsech, FWP

00:24:42 Sen. Facey

00:25:07 Hope Stockwell, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:26:15 Sen. Facey

00:26:29 Rep. MacDonald

00:26:39 Sen. Facey

00:26:56 Chair Brenden

00:28:18 Sen. Phillips

00:28:48 Sen. Ripley

00:29:23 Chair Brenden

00:29:40 Sen. Hamlett

Closing by Sponsor:

00:30:12 Rep. MacDonald

00:30:54 Chair Brenden

00:31:47 Hope Stockwell, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

00:31:58 Chair Brenden

00:32:33 Recess

00:34:02 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 245

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:34:13 Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R), SD 22, opened the hearing on SB 245, Revise laws related to late season cow elk hunts.

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:40:46 Brian McCullough, self

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a04\)](#)

00:43:38 Blake Henning, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF)

00:46:32 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a05\)](#)

00:49:48 Carl Anfinson, self

00:50:29 Annette Rinehart, self

00:50:50 Jay Bodner, Montana Stock Growers Association (MSGA)

00:53:18 Bill Mitchell, board of directors, Montana Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife (MT SFW)

00:53:51 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a06\)](#)

00:55:39 Darryl James, Wilkes Ranch Montana Limited (WRML)

00:58:17 Jeff Hagener, director, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a07\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:00:19 George Golie, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF)

01:02:37 JW Westman, Laurel Rod and Gun Club (LRGC)

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a08\)](#)

01:06:26 Joe Perry, Montana Sportsmen's Alliance (MSA)

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a09\)](#)

01:09:52 Jeff Herbert, self

01:14:01 Stan Frasier, self

01:14:51 Chris Marchion, Anaconda Sportsmen's Club (ASC)

01:18:26 Chuck Denowh, United Property Owners of Montana (UPOM)

[EXHIBIT\(fis30a10\)](#)

01:21:43 Rod Bullis, self

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:22:11 Sen. Phillips
 01:23:38 Mr. Hagener, FWP
 01:25:22 Sen. Phillips
 01:25:42 Ms. Johnson, MOGA
 01:26:19 Sen. Ripley
 01:27:57 Mr. Herbert, self
 01:29:17 Sen. Ripley
 01:30:50 Mr. Frasier, self
 01:31:08 Sen. Vincent
 01:34:30 Mr. Herbert

 01:34:36 Sen. Facey left the hearing.

 01:35:58 Sen. Vincent
 01:38:54 Mr. Hagener
 01:39:01 Chair Brenden
 01:39:10 Sen. Fielder
 01:40:34 Sen. Hamlett
 01:41:29 Sen. Hinkle
 01:41:54 Sen. Ripley
 01:43:12 Mr. Hagener
 01:43:27 Sen. Vuckovich
 01:44:50 Mr. Hagener
 01:45:30 Chair Brenden
 01:45:37 Mr. Herbert
 01:45:59 Chair Brenden
 01:46:22 Mr. Herbert
 01:46:26 Chair Brenden
 01:48:14 Sen. Kary

Closing by Sponsor:

01:48:28 Sen. Kary

 01:53:25 Chairman Brenden

 01:53:40 Recess
 02:03:35 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 221

02:03:46 **Motion:** Sen. Ripley moved that **HB 221 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

02:03:50 **Motion:** Sen. Ripley moved that **HB 221 BE AMENDED.**
EXHIBIT(fis30a11)

02:04:28 **Vote:** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. Sen. Facey was excused.

02:04:36 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Ripley moved that **HB 221 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** Motion carried 9-0 by voice vote by those present and voting. Sen. Facey was excused. Sen. Ripley will carry the bill.

HEARING ON HB 212

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:05:32 Rep. Kirk Wagoner (R), HD 75, opened the hearing on HB 212, Reaffirm that trapping is a form of hunting protected under MT Constitution.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:08:11 Gary Marbut, president, Montana Shooting Sports Association (MSSA)
 02:10:39 Joe Balyeat, self

 02:13:44 Sen. Facey entered the hearing.

 02:14:39 Toby Walrath, president, Montana Trappers Association (MTA)
 02:16:35 Bob Kubiak, self
 02:19:33 Bill Mitchell, board of directors, Montana Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife (MT SFW)
 02:20:46 Mack Minard, executive director, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association (MOGA)
 02:21:50 Chelcie Cremer, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
 02:22:26 Paul Fielder, wildlife biologist, self
 02:24:08 Ethan Nelson, self
 02:24:32 Brian Gartner, self
 02:25:50 Tom Barnes, self
 02:26:13 Garrett Bacon, self
 02:26:48 Jason Maxwell, self
 02:27:35 Bob Sheppard, self
 02:28:04 Bertram Wustner, Montana Trappers Association (MTA) and Montana Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife (MT SFW)

Opponents' Testimony:

02:30:44 Shirley Palmer, self
 02:34:05 Bruce Desonia, self
 02:39:07 KC York, chair, Trap Free Montana Public Lands (TFMPL)
EXHIBIT(fis30a12)

02:44:14 Christopher Justice, director, Footloose Montana

02:46:48 Mike Koeppen, self
 02:47:38 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies
 02:48:49 Lisa Philipps, self
 02:50:35 Wes Miles, volunteer, Trap Free Montana Public Lands (TFMPL)
 02:54:59 Terence Gill, self
 02:58:32 Sue Kronenberger, self
 02:58:56 Tamzin Brown, self
 02:59:23 Cheryl Kindschy, self
 02:59:39 Robin Layton, self
 03:00:03 Steve Barkley, self
 03:00:22 Breanne Ender, self
 03:00:35 Rhonda Lanier, self
 03:00:45 Marla Mahoney, self
 03:01:01 Chuck Preston, self

 03:01:21 Chair Brenden

Informational Testimony:

03:02:17 Becky Dockter, attorney, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

03:03:03 Sen. Hinkle
 03:07:15 Ms. Palmer, self
 03:07:23 Sen. Hinkle
 03:08:54 Mr. Fielder, self
 03:09:31 Sen. Phillips
 03:10:52 Rep. Wagoner
 03:11:16 Sen. Phillips
 03:12:22 Mr. Balyeat, self
 03:15:06 Sen. Phillips
 03:15:55 Rep. Wagoner
 03:16:14 Sen. Hamlett
 03:17:58 Ms. Dockter, FWP
 03:18:33 Sen. Vincent
 03:20:00 Mr. Balyeat
 03:22:59 Sen. Vincent
 03:23:40 Ms. Dockter
 03:25:24 Sen. Vincent
 03:28:24 Mr. Gill, self
 03:29:37 Sen. Fielder
 03:32:16 Ms. Dockter
 03:32:28 Sen. Fielder
 03:33:15 Rep. Wagoner
 03:33:34 Chair Brenden
 03:33:53 Sen. Ripley
 03:35:04 Ms. Dockter
 03:35:31 Sen. Ripley
 03:35:41 Sen. Phillips

03:36:09 Ms. Dockter
03:36:16 Sen. Phillips
03:36:12 Chair Brenden
03:36:23 Hope Stockwell, research analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
03:36:53 Chair Brenden
03:37:25 Mr. Miles, TFMPL

Closing by Sponsor:

03:37:44 Rep. Wagoner
[EXHIBIT\(fis30a13\)](#)

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 247

03:40:22 **Motion:** Sen. Brenden moved that **SB 247 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

03:40:42 Sen. Facey
03:41:34 Sen. Ripley
03:42:08 Chair Brenden
03:43:27 Sen. Phillips

03:44:58 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-3 by roll call vote with Sen. Facey, Sen. Phillips and Sen. Vuckovich voting no.

Discussion:

03:45:42 Chair Brenden
03:45:44 Sen. Hamlett
03:46:11 Sen. Hinkle
03:46:29 Sen. Facey
03:46:48 Sen. Brenden
03:46:57 Sen. Fielder
03:47:01 Sen. Phillips
03:47:13 Chair Brenden

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 6:50 pm

Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fis30aad.pdf](#))